



US006968179B1

(12) **United States Patent**  
**De Vries**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,968,179 B1**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Nov. 22, 2005**

(54) **PLACE SPECIFIC BUDDY LIST SERVICES**

(75) Inventor: **Jean Pierre De Vries**, Kirkland, WA (US)

(73) Assignee: **Microsoft Corporation**, Redmond, WA (US)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 690 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/626,170**

(22) Filed: **Jul. 27, 2000**

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup> ..... **H04Q 7/20; H04B 1/38**

(52) U.S. Cl. .... **455/414.1; 455/456.3; 455/566**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... 455/414.1, 422.1, 455/456, 457, 459, 466, 456.1, 456.2, 456.3, 455/456.4, 456.6, 566; 340/993

(56) **References Cited**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

5,086,394	A *	2/1992	Shapira	.....	340/993
5,548,726	A	8/1996	Pettus		
5,926,765	A *	7/1999	Sasaki	.....	455/456.1
5,946,626	A *	8/1999	Foladare et al.	.....	455/456
6,377,793	B1 *	4/2002	Jenkins	.....	455/456
6,519,463	B2 *	2/2003	Tendler	.....	455/456.3
6,549,768	B1 *	4/2003	Fraccaroli	.....	455/456.3
6,587,691	B1 *	7/2003	Granstam et al.	.....	455/457

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EP	0 804 010 A2	10/1997
EP	0 817 444 A2	1/1998
WO	WO 00/22860	4/2000

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

“The HAVi Specification: Specification of the Home Audio/Video Interoperability (HAVi) Architecture,” *HAVi Specification*, (Nov. 19, 1198).  
Zhang et al., “X.500 Directory and OSI Management,” *Including A Communications Theory Mini Conference*, (Dec. 6-9, 1992).

\* cited by examiner

*Primary Examiner*—Quochien B. Vuong

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Klarquist Sparkman, LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An information service provides search and notifications to inform when certain people (e.g., friends, family, business contacts, etc.) are nearby so as to facilitate communications with those people. Users may define lists of people whose locations may be tracked by positioning equipment based on personal communications/computing devices carried by the people. The information service processes this people and place data to identify those of the listed people that are in the user’s vicinity, and provide notifications and user-initiated search results informing the user such as via the user’s personal communications/computing device.

**26 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets**

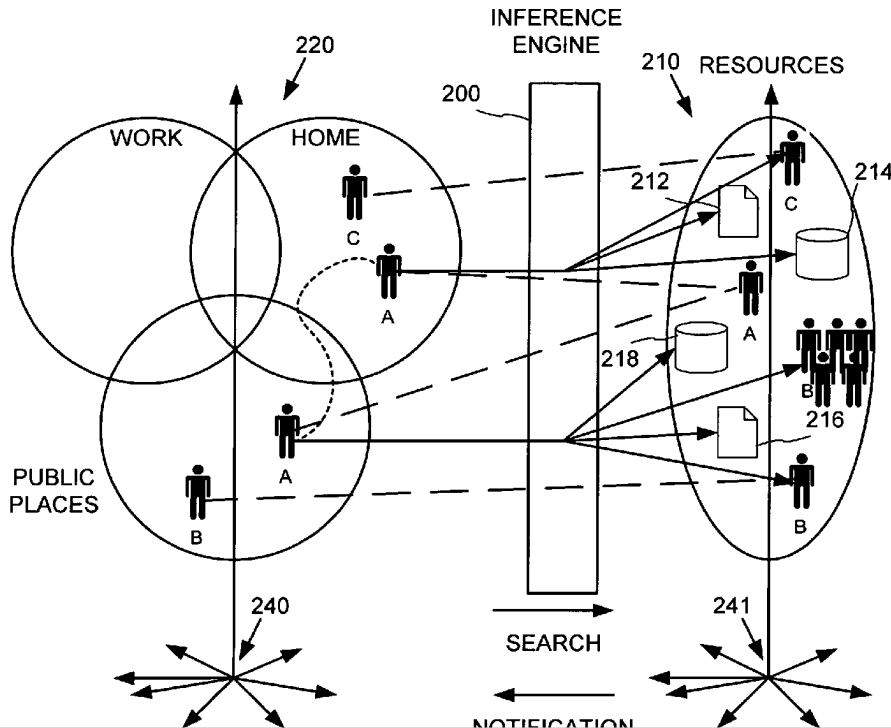


FIG. 1

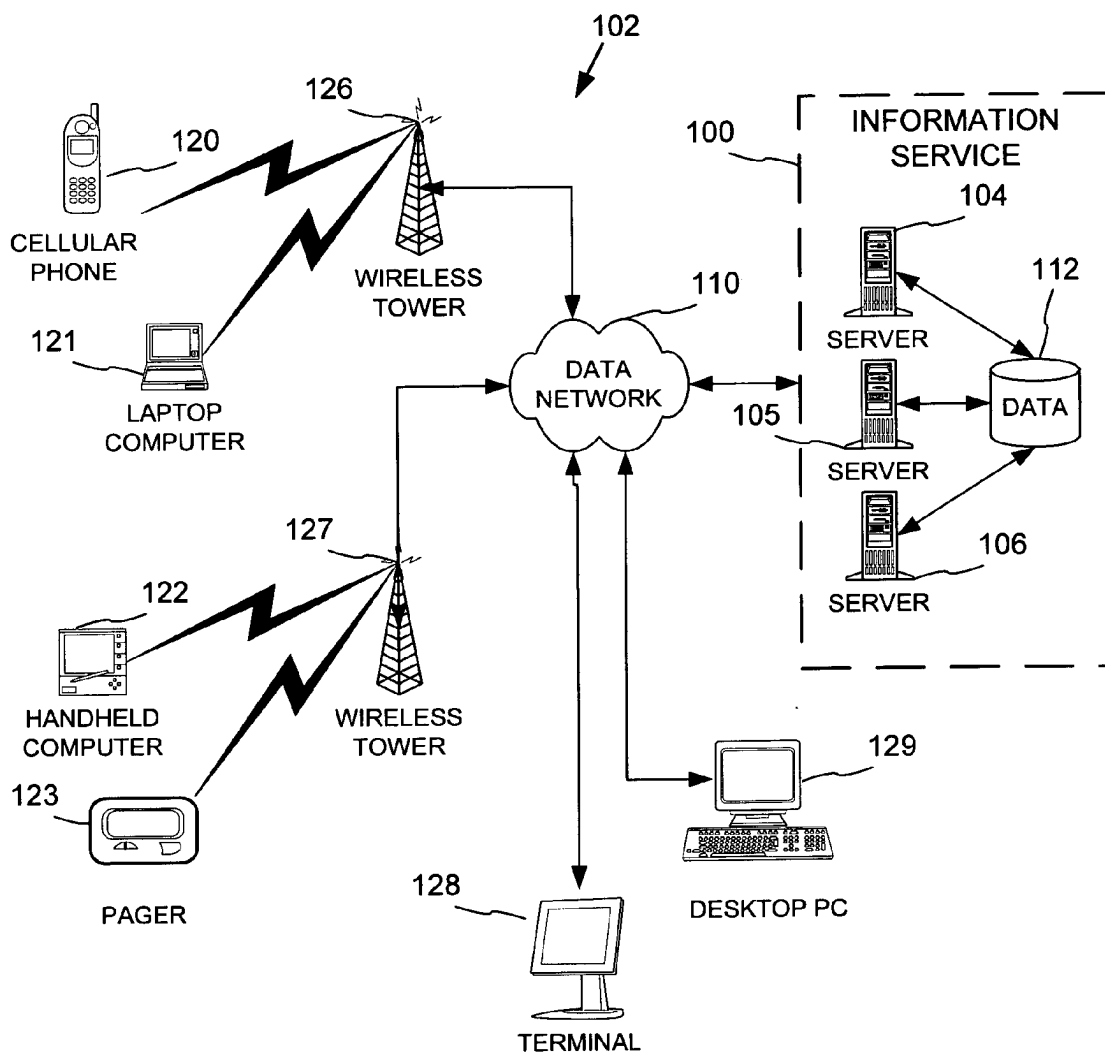
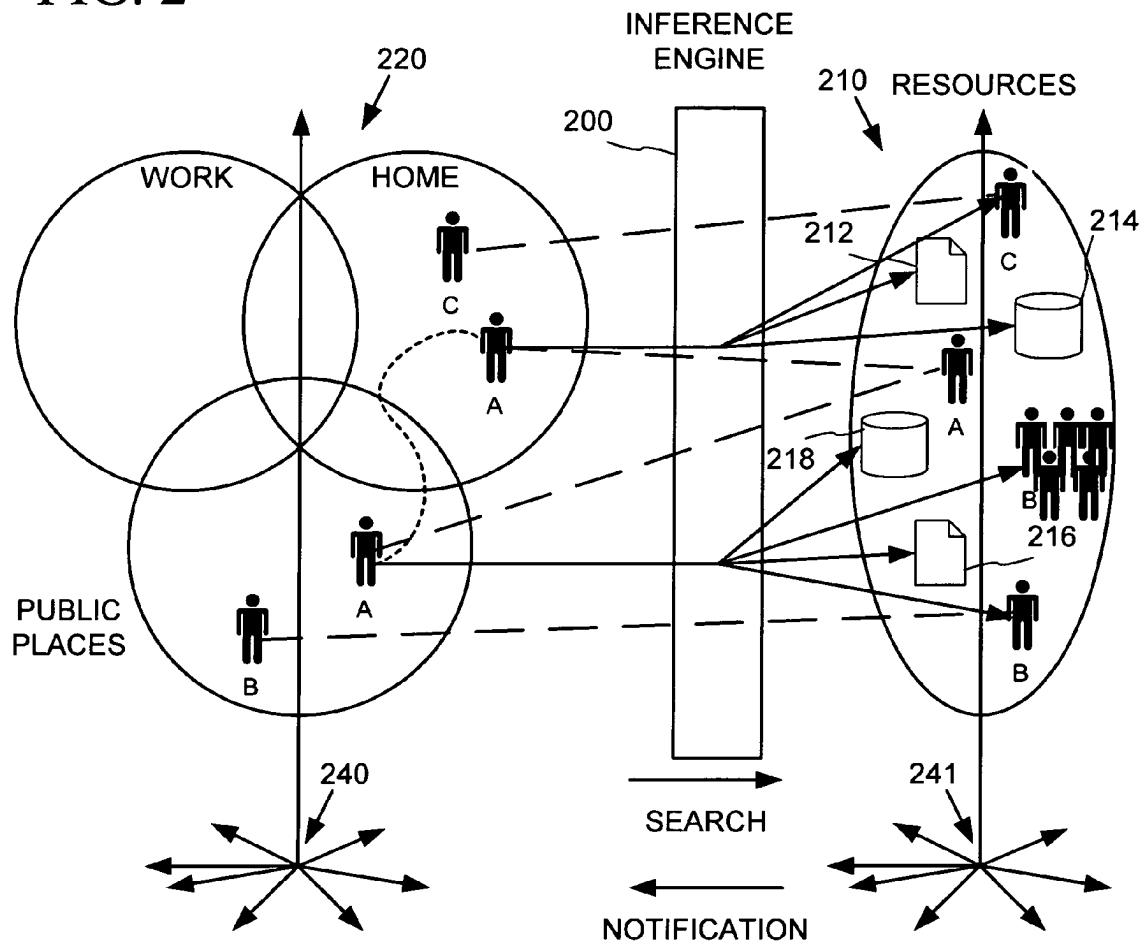


FIG. 2



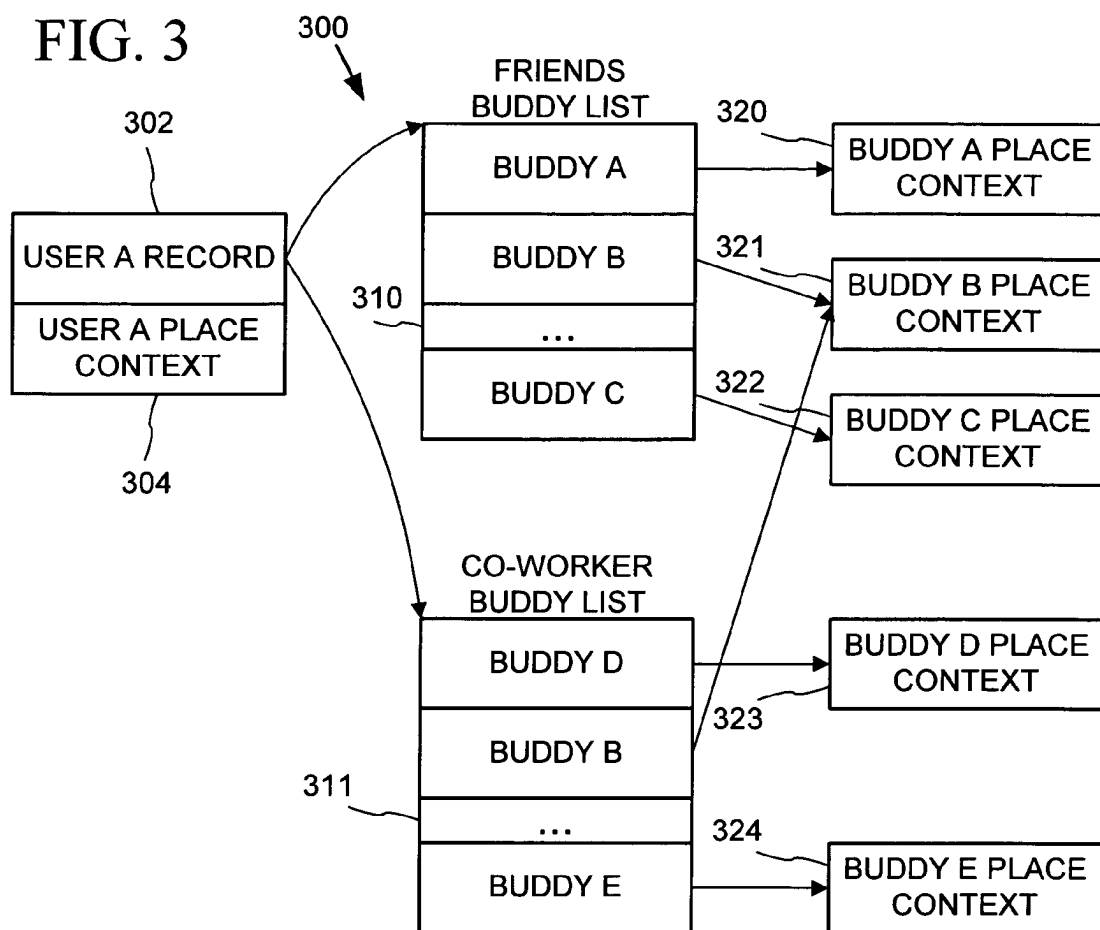
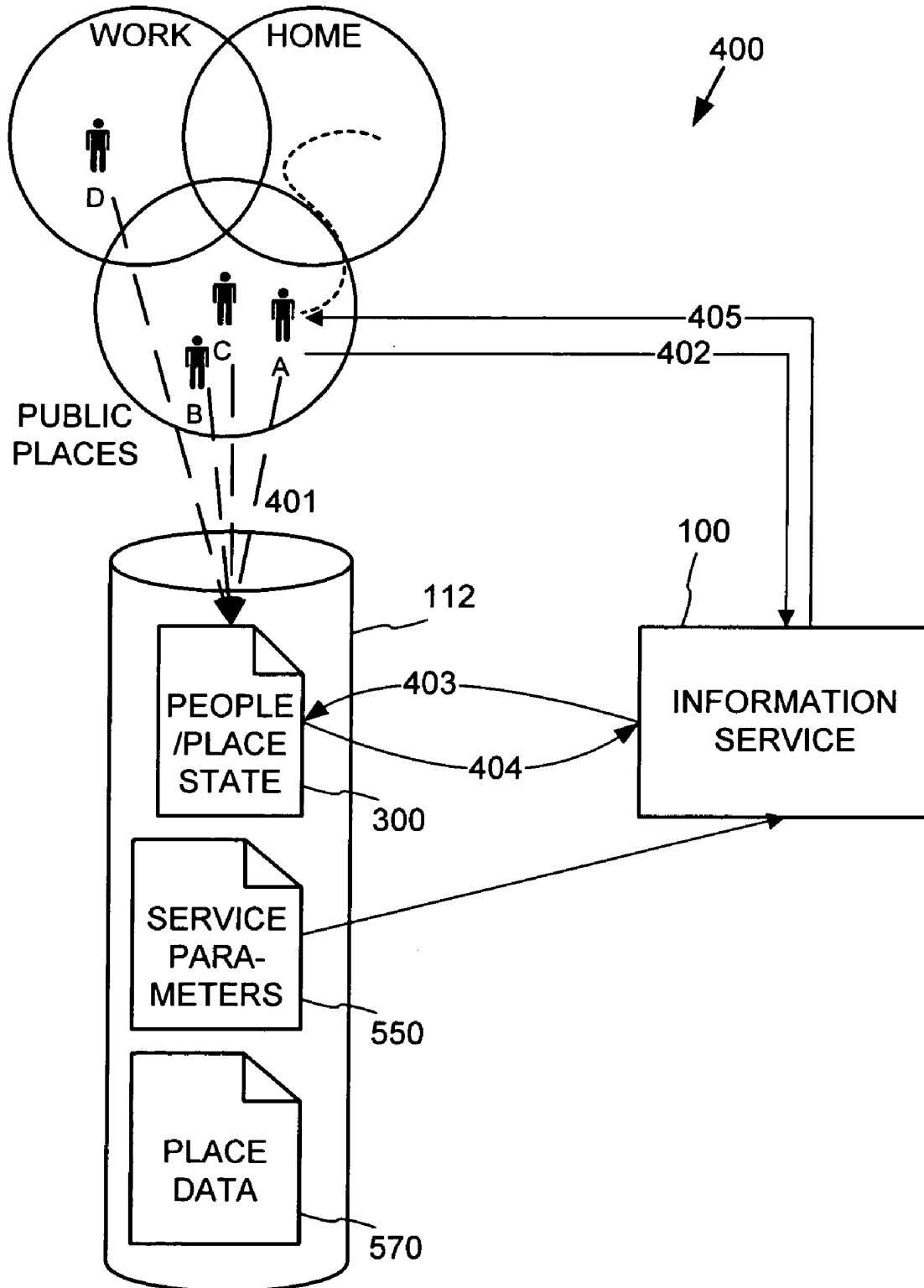


FIG. 4

SEARCH



# Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

## Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

## Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

## Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

## API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

## LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

## E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.